

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please amend the claims as follows. Any other difference between the claims below and the previous state of the claims is unintentional and in the nature of a typographical error.

1. (Currently Amended) A method performed in a computer, the method comprising:
storing, in the computer, a memory operable to store information identifying a plurality of facilities in a complex, each facility associated with a different one of a plurality of construction projects, wherein the complex comprises a church and at least one of the facilities comprises an auditorium in the church; and

~~a processor configured to perform the steps of:~~
determining, in the computer, a potential revenue associated with at least one of the facilities;
determining, in the computer, a cost associated with the at least one of the facilities; and
generating, in the computer, a schedule of the construction projects using the determined potential revenue and the determined cost, wherein the schedule comprises a plurality of phases and one or more of the construction projects may be performed in any phase, wherein generating a schedule comprises ~~comprising~~, for each of the one or more construction projects, receiving from a user an identification of one of a the plurality of phases during which the respective construction project is to be performed, would occur; ~~would occur~~;

wherein determining the potential revenue comprises:

estimating future growth in a number of people attending church services at the church, wherein the future growth is determined using at least one growth estimate, wherein the growth estimate uses a past growth rate of the church and a potential growth rate of the church; and

estimating an amount of donations given to the church during a future time period, wherein the estimated amount of donations is based at least in part on the estimated future growth in the number of people attending the church services, ~~and~~

wherein the processor is configured to output the results of the previous steps onto a computer readable medium.

2. (Canceled).

3. (Previously Presented) The method of Claim 1, wherein determining the cost associated with at least one of the facilities comprises:

identifying a size of at least one of the facilities based on the estimated future growth in attendance; and

determining a cost of at least one of the construction projects based on the identified size.

4. (Original) The method of Claim 3, wherein identifying the size of the at least one facility comprises identifying a plurality of sizes for the at least one facility.

5. (Currently Amended) The method of Claim 1, wherein identifying the plurality of facilities comprises receiving in the host computer an identification of the facilities from a user.

6. (Cancelled)

7. (Currently Amended) The method of Claim 1, further comprising identifying a cost of each phase, ~~and~~ wherein the estimated amount of donations is determined based at least in part on completion of each phase.

8. (Original) The method of Claim 1, wherein determining the potential revenue associated with at least one of the facilities comprises identifying potential donations to be received during one or more fund-raising campaigns.

9. (Original) The method of Claim 8, further comprising:
identifying an amount of borrowing needed to pay for the construction projects; and
identifying an amount of debt to be paid off each year.

10. (Currently Amended) The method of Claim 1, further comprising:
receiving in the host computer alterations of data used to generate the schedule from a user;
and
showing the user in real time using the host computer how altered data affects the schedule.

11. (Currently Amended) The method of Claim 1, further comprising:
receiving in the host computer a constraint on data used to generate the schedule from a user;
and
showing the user in real time using the host computer how the constraint affects the schedule.

12. (Previously Presented) The method of Claim 1, wherein the estimated amount of donations is determined using a factor defining a rate at which at least one of a plurality of newer members of the church generally donate compared to at least one of a plurality of older members of the church.

13. (Currently Amended) The method of Claim 1, wherein the determined potential revenue associated with at least one of the facilities and the determined cost associated with at least one of the facilities are used to estimate a cash flow, and the cash flow is used to generate the schedule.

14. (Previously Presented) The method of Claim 1, wherein the determined cost associated with at least one of the facilities comprises at least one of operating costs, general and administrative expenses, construction costs, and staffing costs associated with at least one of the facilities.

15. (Currently Amended) A system, comprising:

a memory operable to store information identifying a plurality of facilities in a complex, each facility associated with a different one of a plurality of construction projects, wherein the complex comprises a church and at least one of the facilities comprises an auditorium in the church; and one or more processors collectively operable to:

determine a potential revenue associated with at least one of the facilities;

determine a cost associated with at least one of the facilities; and

generate a schedule of the construction projects using the determined potential revenue and the determined cost, wherein the schedule comprises a plurality of phases and one or more of the construction projects may be performed in any phase, wherein generating a schedule comprises ~~comprising~~, for each of the one or more construction projects, receiving from a user an identification of one of a the plurality of phases during which the respective construction project is to be performed, ~~would occur~~;

wherein the one or more processors are collectively operable to determine the potential revenue by:

estimating future growth in a number of people attending church services at the church, wherein the future growth is determined using at least one growth estimate, wherein the growth estimates use a past growth rate of the church and a potential growth rate of the church; and

estimating an amount of donations given to the church during a future time period, wherein the estimated amount of donations is based at least in part on the estimated future growth in the number of people attending the church services.

16. (Currently Amended) The system of Claim 15, wherein[[:]] the one or more processors are collectively operable to determine the cost associated with at least one of the facilities by:

identifying a size of at least one of the facilities based on the estimated future growth in attendance; and

determining the cost associated with at least one of the facilities based on the identified size.

17. (Currently Amended) The system of Claim 15, wherein the one or more processors are collectively operable to generate the schedule by:

identifying a cost of each phase.[[:]] wherein the estimated amount of donations is determined based at least in part on completion of each phase.

18. (Currently Amended) The system of Claim 15, wherein[[:]] the one or more processors are collectively operable to determine the potential revenue associated with at least one of the facilities by identifying potential donations to be received during one or more fund-raising campaigns,[[:]] and wherein the one or more processors are further collectively operable to:

identify an amount of borrowing needed to pay for the construction projects; and

identify an amount of debt to be paid off each year.

19. (Previously Presented) The system of Claim 15, wherein the one or more processors are further collectively operable to:

receive alterations of data used to generate the schedule from a user; and

show the user in real time how the altered data affects the schedule.

20. (Currently Amended) The system of Claim 15, wherein the potential revenue associated with at least one of the facilities and the identified cost associated with at least one of the facilities are used to estimate a cash flow, and the cash flow is used to generate the schedule.

21. (Previously Presented) The system of Claim 15, wherein the identified cost associated with at least one of the facilities comprises at least one of operating costs, general and administrative expenses, construction costs, and staffing costs associated with at least one of the facilities.

22. (Currently Amended) A system, comprising:

a memory operable to store information identifying a plurality of facilities in a complex, each facility associated with a different one of a plurality of construction projects, wherein the complex comprises a church and at least one of the facilities comprises an auditorium in the church; and

an analysis module operable to:

determine a potential revenue associated with at least one of the facilities;

determine a cost associated with at least one of the facilities; and

generate a schedule of the construction projects using the determined potential revenue and the determined cost, wherein the schedule comprises a plurality of phases and one or more of the construction projects may be performed in any phase, wherein generating a schedule comprises ~~comprising~~, for each of the one or more construction projects, receiving from a user an identification of one of a the plurality of phases during which the respective construction project is to be performed, ~~would occur~~;

wherein the analysis module is operable to determine the potential revenue by:

estimating future growth in a number of people attending church services at the church, wherein the future growth is determined using at least one growth estimate, wherein the growth estimate uses a past growth rate of the church and a potential growth rate of the church; and

estimating an amount of donations given to the church during a future time period, wherein the estimated amount of donations is based at least in part on the estimated future growth in the number of people attending the church services.

23. (Previously Presented) The system of Claim 22, further comprising:

a constraints module operable to receive a constraint on data used to generate the schedule from a user; and

an optimization module operable to show the user in real time how the constraint affects the schedule.

24. (Currently Amended) A computer program embodied on a non-transitory computer readable medium, the computer program comprising:

computer readable program code for identifying a plurality of facilities in a complex, each facility associated with a different one of a plurality of construction projects, wherein the complex comprises a church and at least one of the facilities comprises an auditorium in the church;

computer readable program code for determining a potential revenue associated with at least one of the facilities;

computer readable program code for determining a cost associated with at least one of the facilities; and

computer readable program code for generating a schedule of the construction projects using the determined potential revenue and the determined cost, wherein the schedule comprises a plurality of phases and one or more of the construction projects may be performed in any phase, wherein generating a schedule comprises ~~comprising~~, for each of the one or more construction projects, receiving from a user an identification of one of a the plurality of phases during which the respective construction project is to be performed, would occur, ~~would occur~~;

wherein the computer readable program code for determining the potential revenue comprises:

computer readable program code for estimating future growth in a number of people attending church services at the church, wherein the future growth is determined using at least one growth estimate, wherein the growth estimate uses a past growth rate of the church and a potential growth rate of the church; and

computer readable program code for estimating an amount of donations given to the church during a future time period, wherein the estimated amount of donations is based at least in part on the estimated future growth in the number of people attending the church services.

25. (Canceled).

26. (Previously Presented) The computer program of Claim 24, wherein the computer readable program code for determining the cost associated with at least one of the facilities comprises:

computer readable program code for identifying a size of at least one of the facilities based on the estimated future growth in attendance; and

computer readable program code for determining the cost of at least one of the construction projects based on the identified size.

27. (Currently Amended) The computer program of Claim 24, wherein the computer readable program code for generating the schedule comprises:

computer readable program code for identifying a cost of each phase_i[[;]] wherein the estimated amount of donations is determined based at least in part on completion of each phase.

28. (Currently Amended) The computer program of Claim 24, wherein the computer readable program code for determining the potential revenue comprises computer readable program code for identifying potential donations to be received during one or more fund-raising campaigns, and

wherein the computer program further comprises:

computer readable program code for identifying an amount of borrowing needed to pay for the construction projects; and

computer readable program code for identifying an amount of debt to be paid off each year.

29. (Previously Presented) The computer program of Claim 24, wherein the computer program further comprises:

computer readable program code for receiving alterations of data used to generate the schedule from a user; and

computer readable program code for showing the user in real time how the altered data affects the schedule.

30. (Previously Presented) The computer program of Claim 24, wherein the determined potential revenue associated with at least one of the facilities and the determined cost associated with at least one of the facilities are used to estimate a cash flow, the cash flow used to generate the schedule.

31. (Previously Presented) The computer program of Claim 24, wherein the determined cost associated with at least one of the facilities comprises at least one of operating costs, general and administrative expenses, construction costs, and staffing costs associated with at least one of the facilities.

32. (Previously Presented) The system of Claim 22, wherein the estimated amount of donations is determined using a factor defining a rate at which at least one of a plurality of newer members of the church generally donate compared to at least one of a plurality of older members of the church.

33. (Previously Presented) The system of Claim 15, wherein the estimated amount of donations is determined using a factor defining a rate at which at least one of a plurality of newer members of the church generally donate compared to at least one of a plurality of older members of the church.

34. (Previously Presented) The method of Claim 6, wherein estimating the future growth in the number of people attending the church services comprises:

limiting a future growth prediction to no more than a specified percentage during a portion of one or more of the phases; and

enforcing a different maximum growth rate for the future growth prediction during other times.